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## **County Administrative Office** Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria Director

June 4, 2015

The Honorable Ken Cooley California State Assembly State Capitol Sacramento, California 95814

Re: AB 870 (Cooley) As Amended on June 2, 2015- SUPPORT

Dear Assemblyman Cooley:

The County of San Bernardino supports AB 870, which would establish a two-year pilot program within the Department of Housing and Community Development to award funding to four counties that operate rapid re-housing programs.

As you are aware, rapid re-housing focuses on moving persons and families experiencing homelessness quickly into permanent housing, based on evidence that their long-term outcomes are better. Studies have demonstrated that rapidly re-housing homeless persons is more successful at reducing homelessness and is also subsequently more cost-effective to the state or local government entity.

The last homeless count in San Bernardino County revealed there were 2,321 homeless adults and children in the county, with 518 living in shelters or having received motel vouchers and 556 living in transitional housing. AB 870 would provide this population access to housing and other essential services necessary to assimilate back into their communities.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 870. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or <a href="mailto:icandelaria@sbcounty.gov">icandelaria@sbcounty.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

JAMES RAMOS

Board of Supervisors Chairman

Third District Supervisor

County of San Bernardino

c: County of San Bernardino Legislative Delegation